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EVENING 120,434

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# Cuba Fighter Blames U.S. For Bay of Pigs Failure

Claims that lack of air cover-deported and was arrested eluded the Castro pilots by Rorke caused the failure of the land deported again in 1960. flying just above the treetops 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion of Now 36, Rorke is touring while the MIGs searched the Cuba were made to hide the truth behind the failure, a the U.S. "between my visits sky 1,000 feet above." self-styled "American free to Cuba," lecturing before Seven U.S. citizens have been executed by Castro. "How could 1,500 men, even men's clubs. He was to speak more than \$2 million in U.S. with air cover, hope to over in Los Angeles today and re- owned industry confiscated come 250,000 armed Castro return to his home in New York militiamen?" Alexander and "two Presidents insult tomorrow. Rorke Jr. said. "Our government knew the invasion would fail."

**Made Speech Here** Rorke is the free-lance reporter and photographer who claims to have taken part in a night bombing raid on oil refineries near Havana three weeks ago.

He spoke yesterday at San Diego State under sponsorship of Students for Freedom, a conservative student group. "I offered our government a landing strip off the U.S. mainland and less than an hour from Cuba shortly before the Bay of Pigs invasion," Rorke said. "The government ignored my offer. As a result, many U.S. planes ran out of gas and crashed on the way to Cuba."

#### Pilots Commit Suicide

"Three pilots flying for the Central Intelligence Agency committed suicide by diving their planes into Castro's troops when they saw their government had failed them."

Rorke said he has entered Cuba secretly dozens of times in the past five years. He said he was held prisoner by Castro's intelligence chiefs for 16 days in 1959 before being

#### Organization Formed

of Pigs invasion, Rorke said:

He and some Cuban exiles formed an organization called

the "Phantom Cells."

"We flew over Cuba and dropped thousands of leaflets

to the citizens, giving them tips on how to sabotage Cas-

tro's government," Rorke

said. "We told them how to pour sand in gasoline tanks,

wreck typewriters, cause "accidental" fires in filing cabinets."

Rorke said on one of the leaflet-dropping runs, his

plane was pursued by five Russian-made MIG jet fighters. He said the U.S. planes

flew just above the treetops flying just above the treetops

while the MIGs searched the sky 1,000 feet above.

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from the U.S. government

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